**GMT20240718-232547 Recording 640x360**

Okay, this is our Thursday night session. We're back into Ephesians. And I want to draw your attention back into the first chapter of Ephesians.

And I want us to look at verses 11 through 14. And verses 11 through 14 will be the final blessing that is provided in the formation of this world. So we've already talked about the fact that in verse three, we have that amazing promise from God, right? Blessed be the God and the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.

And we said the primary first blessing was divine election. And that was in verses four to six. And we were chosen in Him, in Christ before the foundation of the world, and we were predestined to be adopted.

Predestined to be adopted, it comes in the redemption. So when we look at the scriptures in verses four to six, and it talks about predestined to adoption, it is looking forward to verse seven, where redemption starts, where we had the five legal activities of redemption itself, one of those being adoption. So the second blessing was redemption.

It's in verse seven. In Him, we have redemption through His blood. Remember, His blood is death.

The forgiveness of our trespasses according to the riches of His grace. And as we come to verse 11, we come to the final blessing. Election happened in the past.

Redemption is what's going on now. And to present and into the future. In verse 11, also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose, who works all things after the counsel of His will.

Now, His will is a will. God gave His will to Jesus Christ, the Son, before the foundation of the world. And Jesus Christ, when He came and created the redemption process, dying on the cross, left His will and testament to all of the church.

So to that end, that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory. So He left His will and testament to the church, not to the Hebrew nation, to the church. In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation, having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance with a view to the redemption of God's own possession to the praise of His glory.

Okay, a lot to unpack in that. All right. While redemption began, while redemption was provided to the church with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, and ascension, redemption in our individual life starts at our initial salvation, justification by faith that we believe in the finished work of Jesus Christ, but it continues throughout our lifetime, and it is only completed when the rapture occurs, because then all the church gets redeemed into Him, and we get our inheritance, which is our glorified body in the Spirit, okay? So while redemption goes on in time, redemption is only complete in eternity, and we now know it is not only the redemption of those who belong to the Lord, but it is the redemption of everything.

We talked about that last week. He's going to redeem the grass, the stars, the moon, the sun, the sky, the birds, the bees, the everything. Everything is going to get rolled up into Christ, okay? God created it for His Son.

His Son died for everything, and everything goes to Him, and then what we said last week was when He had everything sorted out, okay, all of the evil people in hell underneath His feet, everyone that needs to go to heaven has gone to heaven. All of the righteousness rewards are out. All of the judgments are done.

Everything's set. Then what Christ does is just turn the key over to His Father. His Father started it.

The Father's going to get it, but Christ has to do all the work. We talked about that on Tuesday when we talked about the fact that the Trinity was the Trinity before the foundation of the world, which is the Trinity today, and everything that happened on earth was done through the Son, and the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament abided with people and left, abided with people and left depending upon what the task was, but in us in the church, it's provided as part of the down payment to our inheritance, and it seals us so that we don't lose the Holy Spirit like the Old Testament did. Everybody up with me still on that, okay? We're good to go.

Popper, what you got? Okay, in chapter or in verse 17, it says, and the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him. So, the spirit of wisdom, is that He's just going to open up our head and just give us knowledge? Oh, no, He's going to give it through the heart, okay? Remember, the spirit is in your heart. All right.

Okay, so He's going to get what He's praying is to the Lord Jesus Christ that the spirit, I was, we're going to get into this starting next time, okay? This is in the next time. So, the details of all of this in this prayer of Paul, we're going to get into the next time, but the spirit of wisdom and revelation is basically knowledge and insight. That's really what it is, okay? You can't be saved without knowledge and insight.

Think about it. If you're being convicted by the Holy Spirit and you have no idea what's going on in your body, are you going to get saved? No. It takes the knowledge.

That's the reason why Scripture says you must hear the gospel and after you've heard the gospel, you now understand the gospel and you can believe, okay? You can't believe without hearing the gospel. That's by Scripture. That's spirit of wisdom and revelation, but it goes much deeper than that.

So, insight is part of that. Yeah, referring to 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verses 1 through 4. I am. Okay.

So, that's the gospel. This revelation that we're talking about, that's a personal revelation that comes from Christ. That's a personal, yeah.

Remember the spirit, the Holy Spirit that is inside of you is Christ. Yeah, I understand that. So, when you say it comes from Christ, yeah it does.

It comes from Christ in heaven to Christ in you and he's trying to talk to you. Are you listening? Okay. So, that's what Paul's praying for.

He's saying, may the Lord give you, you know, give you his wisdom and revelation as it relates to all of these blessings that we're talking about because it starts out wherefore in verse 15. That's the start of this. So, wherefore means something happened before and what happened before is God revealed through Paul the three blessings he gave us before the foundation of the world.

So, now Paul's all excited and he's jumping out in this doxology of prayer and praise and says, you know what? I want God to reveal everything to you. That's what he's saying here. We'll get into that starting next week.

We got two weeks of that because it's so powerful. Yeah, David. Jim, the seal you're talking about here is sealing it within us, not the seal on our forehead at the end.

No, we're going to talk about that too, David, because there's many, many seals and what I want to do in tonight, I'm going to identify the different types of seals and what they mean so that you can gather in your information bank what this sealing process really is. Okay. All right.

Thank you. All right. So, let's continue.

I got one more question, Jim. Okay. There's been a lot of discussion about Jesus Christ and Christ Jesus.

When did the Vatican add Jesus to the Bible? About 500 years ago. So, when the Bible says Christ Jesus and then Jesus Christ, it doesn't make any difference just talking about Christ? No, no, no. It makes a big difference of how it's phrased, but you ask a question about when was Jesus added to the Bible 500 years ago when they changed a Y to a J. Okay.

Yahweh was in the Bible from the very beginning. They just changed the name of Yahweh to Jesus. So, would it be Yahweh Christ? Yes.

Yeshua, Yeshua the Christ, Christ Yeshua. That's basically how Hebrew was written. Okay.

And so, is there a difference when that word is in front? Yes, there is. Yes, it is. Okay.

So, we talked about this on Tuesday night. Jesus is who? The Son of Man. Jesus is the Son of Man.

Christ is the mantle, the Son of God. So, if the Bible speaks of Jesus or Yeshua Christ, it's talking about earth man to Christ in heaven. If it says Christ Yeshua, it's talking about Christ in heaven down to the Son of Man.

There's a meaning how these words are used. Now, Peter got the keys of the kingdom of what? Heaven. Christ, Jesus Christ, Yeshua Christ.

Paul got the keys of the kingdom of God, Christ Jesus. Well, you see how this works now? When the Bible taught, when the Bible verse says Jesus Christ, Yeshua Christ, it's talking about earth to heaven. If it's Christ Yeshua, Christ Jesus, it's talking about heaven to earth.

That's important because why? When we get into prayer, that's how it works. Okay. Christ is in you.

We talked about that. That means that Christ, Son of Man is in you, and he's partnered with the Son of God who sits on the right hand of God, the Father in heaven. And they're directly connected.

There's no open internet connection. They're directly connected. They're hardwired.

Okay. All right. Thank you.

Let's continue. So, we're laying a foundation in all of this for what the Apostle of Ephesians is going to teach us in the months ahead. We're going to be in here about another couple, two or three months.

It begins with this doxology of praise for what God has done in the past election, what he is doing in the present redemption, and what he will do in the future glorification our inheritance. Now, it's important to understand that because all of your earthly blessings and all of your heavenly blessings when you get to heaven come from these three activities. So, whether you're living life eternal, life on earth eternally, or you're already in heaven, which nobody's there because you're here, I'm seeing you, eternal life, it all comes from the basis of these three blessings.

They're all the same. Because why? The will of God, which is everything God has, was willed to his Son. His Son, when he died on the cross, willed everything to the church, which means that whatever God gave him, he gave to the church, which is your eternal life when you get into heaven, and it's life eternal of the blessings that heaven gives you while you live on this earth.

And it all comes from these three things. Okay, so it was about 12, about 13 or 14, maybe 15 years ago, that a popular book came out written by Joel Epstein. Esteem, not Epstein, Esteem.

The title of the book was Your Best Life Now, and it sold about, well, after its release, it sold immediately about 8 million copies at the time of its release. Now, it's been about 15 years, and during that 15 years, which were very dramatic years, the social order that we have in our country and around this world basically shifted. And basically, this book that described everything that was going to happen to people's lives during this time never happened.

So why I bring this up is this, not only the point of saying that 8 million copies were sold in the first several months, which basically the people who bought them never experienced a life that was talked about in the book, so they might want their money back. But what I really want to talk about is that everything in that book was 180% opposite of what we experienced and even experienced today. Let me just give you a few.

We are now living, as we are living today, under dominant deception, dominant lies, hatred, crime, anger, selfishness, immorality, a pandemic, wickedness that most of all hates the truth and will assault the truth every possible way it can. And that means that the Church of Jesus Christ has experienced and will continue to experience these things and much more that we haven't ever experienced, not only in this country, but even in the West or even in the church. We're going to go through some tough times.

And we already have started seeing that. All the churches are being exposed for their role in pedophilia, child trafficking, and we're affiliated with that. The perception of the church is exactly the perception of us and the world.

So the noble experiment of America to have just in a civil society based upon the biblical morality and firm legal control by government exercising the threat and the reality of punishment to those who violate the law is basically essentially over with. You see that things that are evil are now good, things that were unlawful are now lawful, and things that were good are now evil, and things that are good are unlawful. You're seeing this in every way you turn today.

So we need to understand that many of us feel this is the end of what we have hoped for. When we hope for the best of our place in history. The final step in the demise of any society, and we've talked about this before.

Matter of fact, I've got, it's in my books and it's also in some educational pieces. The demise of any society is when the truth is under assault, and you can almost tell what is true because if it's true, they cancel it. It's called cancel culture.

It's not hard to figure out what is true. If it's true, they attack it. Freedom to do evil.

Evil, in fact, is now legal in many cases and righteous is criminalized. So our nation has succumbed to all of this, and that's where we're at today, and that's what we've got to work out of, and it was all caused by this 2020 election where supposedly 81 million people voted for a particular candidate who at the time, nobody would listen really, at the time participated themselves in abortion, lies, child sexual transition, transgender and homosexuality in every form, child trafficking, pornography, and everything else, okay? When it all comes out, you're going to see one of the wickedest men and his family on this God's given earth, and it didn't happen overnight. So what is it about human nature that allows them to be so easily victimized by corruption, wickedness, and sin? Well, the same question was asked and has been asked ever since the Second World War.

The question was, how could Hitler be so easily able to persuade normal German people to murder hostages, send people into labor camps, euthanize people, starve them to death, kill them medically, terror bomb them, let them die in camps, so that as many as 31 million people were killed outright in that regime, including a million children and at least six million Jews. How did this happen? Now, we're going to get around back to this inheritance thing, okay? But you've got to see that you're playing in society this way, and if you're playing in society this way, you're not able to receive that blessing. So this has got to be a mindset change.

So as we go through here, please pay close attention to what you see in reality today and where Scripture says that we needed to go in order to receive our earthly blessings. So how can a whole population turn so easily from normal life to being murderous? You could ask the same question of Russia. How did Stalin convince Russian people to slaughter something over 20 million people? So collectively, in less than a few years, over 50 million people were slaughtered, and I want to tell you this, it was all because of money.

It's all because of money. You might think the answers are complex. Actually, they're not.

The answers to these two questions are pretty simple. Now, here's where the rubber meets the road. All the unredeemed, we have redeemed and unredeemed, okay? All the unredeemed are of their father, the devil, who is a liar and a murderer.

And unless you restrain that in human life, it will run amok. It's easy to get people to do evil. It's the way they are hardwired.

It's their bent. You come into this world with what? And if he should tell us, you come in this world as a child of the devil, where the devil directing all your moves, with wrath as your end goal, until you're redeemed and saved. And that DNA shifts then at that period of time.

When the restraint of government is loosened at all, taken off or perverted, or when the government no longer acts to punish evil and reward good, all kinds of sin will explode. Whether human government allows evil or commands evil, in the case of Hitler and Stalin, people will come together to do evil because they are evil. We're born evil.

We're born dead. We're redeemed for good. So you don't see any people amassing in the streets to rush someplace to do good.

They don't run to do good. It's easy to get people to do evil. That's their natural bent.

In case you question that, let me remind you of what the Word of God says in Romans chapter 3. Here we go. Here's where the rubber meets the road. And we'll look at verse 10.

There is none righteous, not even one. Let's talk about everybody. There is none who understands.

There is none who seeks for God. All have turned aside. Together they have become useless, unfruitful.

There is none who does good, there is not even one. Their throat is an open grave, where their tongues they keep deceiving. The poison of ass is under their lips, whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.

Their feet are swift to shed blood, kill people. Destruction and misery are in their paths, and the path of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes.

Now this is biblical anthropology. This is our history. This is our history today.

This is who we are. Now, I want you to think about it. And I've said this many times.

I want to go back to sanctification. Your daily walk in sanctification is talking and walking with God, doing those things of God. If you're watching movies, or reading books, or talking filthy, or whatever, you're corrupting that wall.

If you're putting that crap in your mind, you're corrupting your wall. Why? Because now you've got to battle it. And some of the greatest movies out there are horror movies, or are movies that have very, very foul language in it, or, you know, all kinds of stuff.

And we seem to just gloss over it when we sit down in front of a goop tube and watch. But remember, that stuff sticks with you, and you have to get over it. So that's a biblical definition of humanity at large.

People run to do evil, and unless they are restrained by conscience, by family discipline, by governor authority, all hell will break loose, because that's the most natural expression of the children of Satan. That's who you are. Upon salvation, if you didn't 180% change, you need to evaluate what in the world you're doing.

He is their father, and he is a liar, and he's a murderer. Now, let's go to Romans chapter 1, and I want to take you to verse 28. Just as they didn't see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a deprived mind, reprobate mind, to do those things which are not proper, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil, full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice.

They are gossip, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful, and although they know the ordinance of God that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but they also give party approval to those who practice them. They're not only doing these things, they make them legal. That's in Romans 1, 28, guys.

So I understand that many of you know all of this, but while you know it, you don't practice it. So regard of what you know, it's in practice that's going to change your mind. We have been an incredible beneficiary of God's kindness because we're been able to go through the horrible time and be together in worship and proclaim the gospel and the word of God.

We have done that here collectively. We got started with one and we're now averaging 60 or so. We are together all the time in the midst of all of this.

So we have gone through and will continue to go through horrible times together with God's help. While at the same time we enjoy this wonderful island of sanity in the midst of the sea of insanity, we're not unaware of what's going on around us. Nobody really seems to care to hide any wickedness anymore.

Matter of fact, some of you don't care. To be honest, hearts are unmasked while faces are masked. You unmask your heart to the evil that's going on in the world.

You mask your face because you don't want to be seen. But you know what? That doesn't work. This cannot be our best life and it's not going to get any better for a while.

Evil men grow worse and worse. This is a free fall and it's not temporary. We're going down and we're going down under the sheer force of unbelief and sin, unprotected and constrained by the judgment of God.

Now, can we fix it? No. Should we join it? Of course not. Many of you do with the things that you do.

We can't join the hate and the anger and the racism masquerading as virtue. We understand what the Bible says. Now, let me just remind you of 1 John 2 15.

We've talked about this too, when we talked about unconditional love for this world. All right, in scripture it says this, do not love the world nor things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the father is not in him.

You get it? You like what you see? You like what you listen to? You like what you put in your minds outside of your sanctification process with God? Yeah, that's, this is talking about you. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful of pride of life is not from the father but is from this world. And then this, the world is passing away.

And also it's lust, but the one who does the will of God lives forever. It tells you right there, guys. Your inheritance is based upon what you do.

And I hope you're getting the sanctification process down because that's what it's talking about, your daily walk with Christ. That's what we wanted to hear, right? Yes, the world is passing away, but we live forever. Also in John 1 chapter 5, we are reminded that the world, that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

The whole world lies in the power of the evil one and it is passing away. The contrast to that is in Philippians 3, which tells us that our citizenship, one of the blessings in redemption, our citizenship is in heaven from which we wait eagerly for our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform us into his own likeness. That's the glorified body.

That's the glorified body. This is definitely not our best life, not by any means. And to all who are in Christ, our best life is yet to come.

Our best life is the glory of heaven. And what you have in these verses that I have read, verses 11 to 14, is the promise of God about the life to come. We have an inheritance and that inheritance was predestined from before the foundation of the world, according to the purpose of God who works in all things, after the counsel of what? His will, his written testament.

To the end of that, we who are first to hope in Christ would be to praise of his glory. We have an inheritance. What we're living in right now is not our best life.

Oh, unless you're going to hell. And if you're going to hell, this is your best life. The only question in all of this is, can we trust God's word? That's really it.

Because he's told you what you're going to get. He's told you how you're going to get it. And we're going to, we're studying that.

And he told you he did this before you were ever born by your name. So the question is, can we trust God? Well, in Hebrews 10, 23, it says, he is faithful that promised. And Romans 4, 21 says, what God has promised, he's able to do.

The God who is truth, who defines truth, who speaks truth and only truth, promises to all who are in Christ, every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ. And that is summed up by the past act of election and the present act of redemption and the future act of glorification. The first blessing was to be chosen.

The second blessing was to be redeemed. And the final blessing is to be glorified. So let's look now at verses 11 to 14.

And let's get a little better of an insight into this wonderful promise. You'll notice the key word is inheritance in this. It appears a couple of times in these brief verses, once in verse 11 and then down in verse 14.

Okay. The word inheritance, it basically means to obtain an inheritance. The idea is that you get, you obtain inheritance, but it's more than that.

We are an inheritance. Okay. This is a two-sided sword.

We are inheritance to Jesus Christ and we obtain inheritance through Jesus Christ. So as, think of this, as we migrate into Jesus Christ upon salvation, Christ migrates into us with the Holy Spirit, with all of his blessings. Your storehouse is internal.

Do you guys understand that? Your storehouse is inside of you in spiritual form. All you have to do is convey to the Spirit that which you made. And the Spirit, by the hard work connected to heaven, says you've already got it before you ever ask.

It was already provided. Okay. We have been made an inheritance.

Now, this is remarkable language. It doesn't discount the fact that we have an inheritance, and this can be translated that way, but it also can be translated, we have obtained an inheritance, or we have been made inheritance, as well as have obtained inheritance. So it's got two sides to it.

So this word inheritance is both ways. Christ died on the cross, paid for our sins. Therefore, God gave him us as that inheritance of that salvation process.

And as we are saved, Christ comes and dwells in us and gives us an inheritance from God himself, which was given to Jesus Christ by God before the foundation of the world. You get the process. The Father has given us, as we saw in John 6 and John 17, to the Son as love gifts.

The reason we are redeemed is that we might be the Son's inheritance, that we might be his bride, that the Father gives him out of eternal love. We are his inheritance. The Father expresses his love to the Son by giving the Son a redeemed humanity, who will love him and serve him and honor him and praise him forever and ever and ever.

And it also gives the ultimate compliment by making them in some way reflect his very image, put on Christ. We are to become Christ. So yes, we have an inheritance that we will receive.

But to begin with, we are an inheritance. And the language allows that. In fact, it's been translated in scholars both ways.

So we are his inheritance. But on the other hand, we don't want to discount the fact that we have also obtained an inheritance. You can look at it the way the hymn writer wrote many, many years ago, I am his and he is mine.

He inherits us and we inherit him. Okay, goes back to just exactly what we talked about earlier. That shouldn't be surprising.

Not in the language of Roman 8, 17, we are joint heirs with Christ. Okay, so we have everything Christ has. But the process is we go to him and he comes to us.

All things belong to you, 1 Corinthians, and you belong to Christ. Again, Christ is in us and we are in Christ. We are Christ's inheritance, and it is Christ who grants us an inheritance.

And the inheritance that we receive is what the Father promises to his Son in the fullness of summing up everything in him. Do you get that? Everything has been bought by Christ. Everything is owned by Christ.

Therefore, what Christ owns, so do we. We're joint heirs. I just want you to see the breadth of this, because this is why you get blessings while you live this life eternal.

And you get more and more and more as you get more sanctified towards Christ. You are a love gift given from the Father to the Son, and you are in the same sense the inheritance that Christ gained from his Father for his work, death on the cross. The Bible is clear about this.

We could take a lot of time to cover this, but I'm going to give you just a couple of scriptures here. 1 Peter 1, verse 3, Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who accordingly to his great mercy has caused us to be born again, election chosen, to a living hope through resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, redemption, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you. That's our glorification.

So we will obtain an inheritance. We are inheritance, but we're going to obtain inheritance. We are Christ inheritance given by the Father to the Son as his inheritance, but we're also because we are joint heirs with Christ, receive all that he has given by the Father's will.

Put that in here. It's verse 5 of chapter 1, or 1 Peter chapter 1 says, is protected by the power of God through the faith for salvation ready to be revealed at the last time. Go to Colossians chapter 1, verse 12, giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints of light, for he rescued us from the domain of darkness, transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

See how all of these three things, these three blessings before the foundation of the world give us our whole ability to live this life on this earth with all the blessings of Christ. So we have redemption, and beyond redemption we have inheritance. We are qualified by the work of Christ to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

Over in the third chapter of Colossians, it's in verse 24, knowing that from your Lord you will receive the reward of inheritance. All through scriptures, all through the New Testament, it tells us that we have inheritance. We are joint heirs in Christ, and God promises in Christ, peace, love, grace, wisdom, eternal, eternity with him, joy, victory, strength, guidance, all of our needs met, power, knowledge, mercy, forgiveness, righteousness, gifts from the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit himself, fellowship with the Trinity, instructions from the Word, elimination, truth, spiritual discernment, heaven, a room in the Father's house, eternal riches, more and more and more.

And we begin to taste this in this life. We don't get all of it, but we begin to taste it. We get the blessings living this eternal life.

But eye has not seen nor has ear heard the things that God has prepared for them that love him. As wonderful as the enjoyment of our Christian experience is, it can't be compared to what is yet to come. We only get a portion of it, but the closer you get sanctified to Christ, you see that other side.

So again, in 2 Peter chapter 1, it says that God, through his divine power, has granted to us everything. It didn't say some or to include. It said everything pertaining to life in Godliness.

Everything. You know, verse 4, he granted to us his precious and magnificent promises so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature. Oh, my gosh.

What is the divine nature? It's the abundance of the universe. Having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust, he promises that we will escape. We will escape the corruption in the world and become partakers of the divine nature.

This is our inheritance. All of the promises, says Paul, all the promises of God are in Christ. Yes.

So I just want to start pointing out that this inheritance idea goes two ways. We are and have been made an inheritance. We will also receive an inheritance.

It's God's way of just sweeping everything up and saying it's all going to belong to Christ. And Christ belongs to you and you belong to him. Therefore, it's all yours.

So what's stopping you? It all belongs to Christ and it's all yours. This is not our best life now. The only way this could be our best life is if you're going to hell.

So let's look at this inheritance. There's three things to consider. Number one, what is the basis of our inheritance? What's the ground? How do we how do we get it? And you know this because we have obtained or been made an inheritance.

And how did this happen? What is the ground of this or what basis? Having been predestined according to his purpose who works all things after the council as well. That's where it all started. He chose you.

That's your basis. He chose you. And you go right back to verse four through six.

You're chosen and you're predestined. So the ground of our inheritance is the fact that we're predestined to this end. Predestined in verse five to adoption as sons according to the kind intention of his will.

Adoption as sons of God through the Jesus Christ to himself. Again, this speaks to the fact that we belong to Christ. We were made for Christ in heaven before we decided to follow Lucifer into his marketplace.

That's what we were made for was to exalt his son. This speaks to the fact that we belong to Christ. We are his heritage, his inheritance, because God determined that when he chose us as as verse four says before the foundation of the world.

This is the ground of our inheritance. We were chosen. We were predestined.

Through redemption we were adopted. We're joining us with Christ. That's the basis.

That is the legal basis of why we get this inheritance. Notice how many times it says in this section in Christ. Verse three in Christ.

Verse four in him. Verse six in the beloved. Verse seven in him.

Verse nine in him. Verse ten in him. Verse twelve in Christ.

Verse thirteen in him. In him. All of this is tied to our union with Christ.

Stop right here and let's bring this back up. You can get your ticket to heaven and you can seal your soul with that ticket, but you can't get the blessings unless you become sanctified. Your daily walk with him is the only way that you're going to get blessings.

Oh, by the way, in this interview today with S.G. and three other people on the phone as I was driving, we got off on the subject of currency and we had a spiritual come to Jesus meeting right there as to what is currency. All the way back to the garden and walked all the way forward to today. I hope Scotty leaves that in.

So we're redeemed in him. In verse seven in our inheritance is him. It is our union that with him that brings us all spiritual.

What's the union? Your sanctification, your daily walk. It starts with predestination. Now, I'm not going to go back and remind you what all of that means.

OK, you can go back and do that. Predestined according to his purpose, who works all things after his canceled of his will. We already know what his will is.

It's what he gave to his son and son gave to us to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of his glory. It means those who were saved through Christ are believing in Christ finished work in him. You are also after listening to the message of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, having also believed.

The ground of our inheritance is that we were predestined, we were chosen, predestined, and we believed. It started with it. It started with his purpose, which is pointed out in Second Timothy one nine.

His purpose is in pledging to the son of God in eternity past a redeemed humanity predestined. From the word predestined, we get the word horizon. It's intensified with a preposition at the beginning.

It means to mark out the boundaries. So what did Christ do? He marked out the boundaries of the people that he had chosen before the foundation of the world. By the way, always got to remember that we weren't even here 6,000 years ago, guys, or more about or more.

God literally marked out his own people. He chose them and they were in God's plan and in God's will and in God's purpose and in God's mind, eternally connected to his son. And they're being chosen and they're being redeemed.

They were there with him. Scripture says we were with God before the beginning of time. They were in Christ when he died.

They were in Christ when he rose again. Now we live in Christ and they will be even more intensely and perfected, joined to him in the future. You do that through your sanctification process.

You can do that while you're here on earth and receive more and more of those blessings or you can wait to get to heaven, not having any blessings on earth, getting no rewards in heaven, but getting your ticket stamp. All of this is God's plan. So go back to verse 11.

He is the one who works all things after the council works his will. Energeo. That's the Greek word for that.

Energeo. He energizes everything. So when you think about salvation, what did we talk about Tuesday night? When you think about salvation, I want you to think about it as the purpose of God, the will of God, the plan of God, the intention of God.

He chose you. He energized you. He gave you your energy.

But sometimes people get a little bit confused of this and they wonder, well, where is the necessary faith component in that? Now, this is the uniqueness of not under being able to understand the entire scripture. Remember, some of this stuff, we don't know exactly how it works because it's not revealed to us yet. So this is side by side.

Down in verse 13, you also, after listening to the message of the gospel of your salvation, having also believed. Salvation doesn't happen apart from faith. The gospel of your salvation, having also believed.

Through the years, that's been a question that is asked over and over again. How do these things go together? If salvation is all God, remember he chose you, predestined you, he redeemed you, and he gives you inheritance. So all of it's chosen by God.

So the question is, if salvation is all God, if it's monogistic, if God does the choosing, the predestining, if God gives the life to the dead person, if God has to do the regenerating, remember you're changing DNA, if God has to grant the faith, if God has to give the sinner sight and the life in order to respond and believe, how is it the sinner's responsibility? Well, that's a dynamic that the Bible doesn't teach us. It's still a mystery. Whenever Christ and man intersect, there is that union through faith that causes things to happen that we don't know how they happen.

And I can't explain it to you other than what scripture tells you. But I can tell you something like this. If I were to ask you who wrote Romans, what would you say? Would you have difficulty in answering that question? Well, I think we ought to have difficulty because we would either say Paul or the Holy Spirit.

Now they didn't alternate. The Holy Spirit write one verse and Paul write the other. Paul used the language, but the Holy Spirit inspired that language.

And therefore, who wrote Romans? It was Paul through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. So who actually wrote it? The Holy Spirit. Let me ask you another question.

Who controls your spiritual life? Wow. Aren't you in control of your life? You say, I can't do it without the Holy Spirit. That's true.

So everything that you do in your life should be the Holy Spirit's activity. And everything that bad that you do in your life, you need to take responsibility and be held accountable for. That's the union that we're talking about.

Hang on guys a minute. So I hate pills. I hate medicine.

Screw with all kinds of things. So when you think about this, you're the ones in control, but the Holy Spirit is the one that gets all the great things in your life. So it's that dichotomy, that intersection between you and the spiritual world that is not truly explained how all that works.

If it was God's predetermined plan, why they are held responsible for doing what they did. Okay. And it's talking about what the Jews that nailed Christ to the cross.

Obviously, God predetermined the death of Christ for the salvation of sinners. But the fact that God predetermined that doesn't justify the hatred and the rejection of the people who had Christ killed. You cannot be a believer without believing, basically.

You say, well, I still don't understand how that goes together. And again, we could push this, but I think I pushed it far enough with you that says, we don't know the true answer of this union, how it works, but we all deal with it every day in our life. It's that intersection of good and evil.

It's that intersection of your sanctification with Christ. It's that intersection with your walking Christ. It's that intersection that allows Christ to manage your life.

So when you come to the issue of predestination, election, sovereign regeneration, and human responsibility, I don't know what the answer to that is, but that should give us great encouragement because it means it's a far more glorious issue than any human being could ever understand. If we could understand it, God would have put it in the Bible. But that's one of the mysteries that basically is still there.

But it doesn't happen without believing. What we understand is this, that's the one New Testament is filled with the command to believe, to believe. Faith comes by hearing and hearing the word of God.

So if you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, believe in your heart, Jesus was raised from the dead, you will be saved. You can't think for a moment that you are supposed to figure out whether you're elect. That's absurd.

If you go back and say, am I elect? Am I chosen? Am I predestined? If you're saved, if you believe by faith that Christ finished work, it says that you will be saved. That means that you were part of the elect. But you know, I like what Spurgeon said back in the 1800s.

He says, we can't run around and see people have an E stamped on their back. That's not our role. But you can command to believe because we are commanded to believe.

You'll die in your sins if you believe not on me. That's what Christ said. So you have to believe and you have to have faith to do that.

The reality of all of this is you have to have an apparent paradox in every major doctrine of scripture that brings God together with man. That is the paradox. So we have inheritance.

The ground of that inheritance is basically predestination in verse 11. But the ground of that inheritance is also according to verse 13, which is we have to believe. Your responsibility is to figure out God's predestined plan.

It's not to figure out God's predestined plan. Your responsibilities do one thing, belief. Your belief system is what runs you.

And whoever believes the Lord will never turn away. Right? Scripture says that's the foundation of understanding. The ground of our inheritance is bound up in God's predestined plan and our response of faith.

Now, the second point I direct you to is the guarantee of our inheritance. Verse 13. At the end, it says, having believed you were sealed in him.

In him is Christ. With the Holy Spirit promise who is given as a pledge of our inheritance and a view of to the redemption of God's own possession. What is the guarantee of our inheritance? The guarantee of our inheritance is the Holy Spirit.

That's the down payment. You were sealed in him in Christ with the Holy Spirit. Now, you can go all the way back to Ezekiel, back to the promises that Ezekiel made in Ezekiel 36 and 37 in regards to the new covenant.

And you will find that one of the promises that God gave in the new covenant is that he would give his spirit. That he would take away a stony heart and give you a heart of flesh and put his spirit within you. And one very essential ministry of the Holy Spirit is sealing.

Sealing with the Holy Spirit of promise. Now, you should like the title of Holy Spirit of promise. Why? Because it means that the Holy Spirit does more than just right now stuff.

He's not just in the immediate or in the moment. The Holy Spirit illuminates us. The Holy Spirit is our resident teacher.

The Holy Spirit does convict us of sin. The Holy Spirit does an ongoing work in our lives of enabling us to minister through spiritual gifts. But he is also the Holy Spirit of promise.

And that is to say, he guarantees the fulfillment of the future inheritance. We're dealing with an element of time in the minds of the people. So, the Holy Spirit of promise guarantees you the fulfillment of your glorification.

Now, it says this is sealed in spirit. Now, you were sealed in him. What does this notion of sealing mean? This goes back to what David was asking.

Let's see if I can give you some illustrations of this that maybe from a different facet that you can see things in different ways. First, we say sealing is a sign of security. Okay, just if we go back in Jewish culture a little bit back in Daniel chapter 6. And you don't have to go through.

I'm just going to give you the highlights here. A man had a signet engraved as his identifying mark. Sometimes a ring or some kind of signet that he would use to identify anything that was his.

Today, we brand cattle, okay, with a symbol. And that symbol is tied to a mark that you file with your county clerk to identify that you own that mark. And whatever that mark's on, you own that property.

Same thing here. Okay, the signet is the mark. Whatever it's placed on is owned by the person who owns the mark.

Any legal document that was here, this was his stamp. It might have been on his finger. It might have been around his waist, around his neck.

But it was his mark. And when the king commanded Daniel to be confined, and the king wanted everybody to do exactly what he said they were supposed to do, he gave his signet to be affixed to the seal on the lion's den. It only meant that no one could break that seal, change the direction, change the ownership of that commissioning of whatever the king wanted to do to Daniel, in this case was throw him in the lion's den, unless they had greater power than the king.

Now, you remember the Christ's tomb was also sealed by a Roman seal, which meant that no one could break that seal. No one had the power to break that seal unless they had more power than Rome. That was a way to secure something.

And that is exactly what the seal of the Spirit is. We are secured. And we are secured by the Holy Spirit, and no one has greater power than he, by scripture.

No one in the universe has greater power than the Holy Spirit. Why? Because the Holy Spirit has got the Holy Spirit is Jesus Christ, God the Son. You remember back in 1 Kings 21 when Ahab wanted Naboth vineyard, and through Jezebel's deception, she got it for him by writing letters and sealing them with Ahab's seal.

This was the official mark of authentication, the royal signature. So God seals us to secure us, and he seals us so that it is labeled that we belong to him. We are legitimate, authentic sons of God.

Now we find a seal also in Jeremiah 32. God instructs Jeremiah to purchase a piece of property that he wants him to have, and his descendants will have it much later in time after the return from the captivity. Now this is when Israel was captive in Babylon, and when they returned, Jeremiah had bought property before being captive.

And basically because it was sealed, he would own it after being captive, and he would come back and his descendants would own the property. So the seal indicated ownership. So the seal of the Holy Spirit means that we are secure.

We are authentically the children of God. We are his, and in the end, we belong to him. In the Old Testament, we find a seal also used as a sign of authority.

You remember the story of Esther. Anasharias wanted to give to Haman the delegated power to kill the Jews, and he sealed it with a signet ring. Later on when things changed and he was confronted with what Haman was going to do in chapter 8, he gave to Mordecai and to Esther his pledge and promise to protect the Jews and destroy Haman, and he again sealed it.

It was a symbol of authority. You can carry out this action. You have authority delegated from me to do so.

Now I think this is a marvelous way to think of the Holy Spirit because we can actually put it in terms we can understand. He is the one who grants us delegated authority to access all the divine resources, your storehouse, your storehouse. Jesus said, anything in my name and what, I'll give it to you.

Anything according to my will. What will? His will in testimony left when he ascended to heaven. Being sealed with the Spirit is a sign of security, authenticity, ownership, and authority, and we exercise all those things as believers.

So our ground of our inheritance is predestination and faith. The guarantee of our inheritance is the promise, the Holy Spirit of promise, who secures us and our inheritance. And one other comment on verse 14, the Holy Spirit is given as a pledge.

This is going to be unique. Nobody's ever taught this. Not only a seal, but a pledge.

What is a pledge? It is in the Greek, it's a down payment. The Holy Spirit is the first installment of our inheritance yet to come. The Holy Spirit is God's down payment on our eternal inheritance and every believer has the Holy Spirit.

If any man has not the Holy Spirit, he's not of his. That's what God said in Romans 8, 9. So the fact that the Spirit is taken up resident in us and we are the temple of the Spirit of God means that God has given us the first installment of our eternal inheritance. Now, inheritance was also used another way.

It was used for an engagement ring. So the Holy Spirit is for us not only the down payment to the future inheritance, but the engagement ring that means we are the bride and we will be married to the bridegroom, Jesus Christ. So think about that.

The Holy Spirit, when it comes to residing in you, is not only your security, your authority, your authenticity, your power, but it's also the engagement ring of Christ. As a believer, I think from all of this you now know that your best life is yet to come. Paul is really calling on these troubled believers living in the worst life of their day to suffer patiently and wait with their hearts full of praise for the eternal inheritance that was promised to them.

He's calling them to understand that the spiritual heavenly blessings that were already secured for them by the redemptive work of Jesus Christ and the elective purpose of God in eternity past, and they were just waiting for the full realization of them when they enter glory, when you get to heaven. We're a child of God. We are the temple of the Holy Spirit.

We are heirs of God. We are the heritage of Christ. We have a heavenly inheritance.

We are joint heirs with him. Heaven is preparing for our arrival. Jesus said, I go to prepare a place for you.

The best is yet to come, far and away incomprehensible. But sometimes we're like a child prince who before his years of maturity can't grasp the enormity of his inheritance. We have little understanding, really, that is why down in verse 18 for a preview of what's to come, Paul says, I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened so that you will know what is the hope of his calling, what are the riches of his glory and of his inheritance in the saints.

I pray for you that your understanding, the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, illuminated so that you will know the hope of your calling, the riches of his glory, of his inheritance of the saints. So we've now gone through all of the three blessings that govern not only our life eternal, life on this earth eternal, living in eternity, meaning that we're living in sanctification, and it also are the same three things tied to the Holy Spirit that gives us our glorified body, which gives us eternal life in heaven. Questions? Comments? Jim? Yes, ma'am.

My only comment is that you've described a life of faith. The just shall live by faith. That's what's coming to my mind.

It's all about faith. Faith without works is dead. So it is a life about faith.

It's about the fact that you believe that faith and that you're putting that faith to active work in not only your sanctification, but the glorification of God, which provides you your inheritance. Interesting. Yeah.

And he will, you know, we're sealed. God will always come through. He'll always follow through.

His promises are sure. Yep. Sam? So Jim, ground is Adama and what is it? Not Aramaic, not Aramaic.

But that represents Adam, don't it? So we're the dust from the ground of the inheritance, which is a property and possession of the Lord. Yes. When we get into redoing Genesis, and we come to the realization and the knowledge of how God put all this together, which is what we're learning, you're going to find that the dust he selected to create Adam was his body, was the physical body.

The molecules that represent represented the holy body, the spiritual body that God basically created. And Adam had a glorified body until he sinned. Think about that.

Adam had a glorified body until he sinned. Therefore, a glorified body is made of the same type of DNA structure that our sinful body's in, but it's in a different dust. That's the reason why you're going to get your own individual body, because the glorified body is made from your DNA structure that God gave you, but it's just going to be made without a sinful covering.

Okay, because I see that in the difference in the Greek language as well through the New Testament. Yes. First meanings of ground.

Yes. All right. Thank you.

I just think, guys, we would not have understood that without going to the substack or anything really about this, because you can tie it all together now. There's nothing really complicated about it. The complication is understanding the mystery, putting the dots together.

That's really the complication, but that's the reason why God said study to show yourself approved. He wanted to get you to study so that you showed the Holy Spirit that you're willing to take the actions necessary to understand his wisdom. That all make sense? Well, just the layers you keep throwing out in substack, and there's so many into that onion.

You just keep peeling them back. Oh my. Yeah, but everything you need to know about this whole universe is in Genesis 1-6, and then activity-wise, Genesis 7-10.

Okay, guys, anything else? Jim, since you're in this chapter, I appreciate all the help I can get. I thought I would say this. In chapter 1, the verses 17 through 20, I prayed that.

I turned it around personally, and I prayed that for years. I put myself in there, and the Word of God is alive, and it tremendously helped me, and it does come to pass. Yeah, and I didn't want to do just the scripture, so the document that I think Norma Jean brought up, a prayer for full sanctification.

I forgot whatever I worded that in title. It was based upon Ephesians 17-20. Yeah, because in essence, that should be your prayer, because that is full sanctification.

It's a prayer for complete sanctification. Right, right, right, right. Yeah, and it works.

It's the Word of God, and God. It's amazing. I'm just thinking about all this that we're learning, and especially tonight, it just kind of confirms everything, or brings it all together.

Is this going to be taught in schools, or whatever we're going to see in the future, because this is just so important? Well, the school systems need to do that. We're going to have, Victoria, the chapter 1, verse 17-20. The schools need help.

The state superintendent in the state of Oklahoma, Ryan, I forgot his last name, starts with a W, but anyway, he required every school to have Bibles in the classroom. That's just a step. Now, you can have a Bible that's put on the shelf, and they're not being used, and it doesn't do any good.

Right, so will it ever get taught in schools? Yeah, it'll get taught in schools. When is going to be when states understand that they need to get their school systems back to the primary understanding of God? We're working with states to actually help them in understanding what they have to do to get the Word of God back into the classroom, not on a shelf, but get it into the classroom. Yeah, so, so important.

Okay, thank you. Robin? Hey, Jim, two things. Just thank you for preparing us for the recognition of our inheritance, and I just appreciate that.

I know everyone does here, that as we begin to see the reflection of what he has given us and the extent, and it ends up just showing up in our life everywhere, that we would take it so seriously and, and really plan our lives around his will, and according to his plan. So thank you for that. I can just feel that coming through your heart, and it touches me to a level of almost tears sometimes, because I think you're answering his call to make sure that we are ready.

So thank you for that. And just a side note that my mother, before she passed in 2017, she had left on my cell phone, which I still have, the reading of chapter six, verse 11, about putting on the whole armor of God to stand up against the wiles of the devil. And twice now, when I've walked into a different room, my phone was locked.

It had been sitting there for quite some time. My phone has been open to her message, which as we all know, that's literally impossible because you have to unlock your phone, go to your voicemails, and then scan down to those old voicemails from six years ago, and then find the one where she quoted that verse. But twice, she has left that open on my counter.

And I just feel like she's really telling us something. And not to be afraid, of course, but I think sometimes we don't always take this as seriously as he's asking us to. So just everyone here from my own mother and spirit that we would put on that full armor of God, we don't really know what that is exactly, but that we would stand together and be prepared to serve and not go into fear and really be a presence for love and support and encouragement for anyone that God places on our path.

So thank you. And that's the message I wanted to share. Thank you.

You're welcome. Thank you for the kind words. This is Christ, guys.

It's not me. I'm just a vessel. Sometimes, as I said, I go back and see what I say and whatever.

And sometimes I... Did I say that? It's like, okay. So God's doing amazing things in a whole lot of people's lives right now. And it's evident, at least it's evident to me as I talk to more and more people about things that are going on in their lives.

And I appreciate that. So thanks. Anything else, guys? All right.

Sure. You good? All right. Let's close in prayer and we'll cut it out.

Father, thank you for this evening. Thank you for the studying of your word in an unhostile environment so that we may explore exactly your truths. Father, thank you for using me as a vessel for your truths.

Thank you for making sure that my mind was your mind tonight. I felt your presence in this teaching. Father, open our hearts and minds to be receptive to your wisdom and to your revelation.

Just as the scripture tells us in Paul's prayer, we want the spirit of wisdom and revelation to reside in us and give us our understanding of not only what your word has to say, but what the world is offering to us so that we can have the proper discernment. Father, please be with us the rest of the week. Bless those who are going into operations tonight.

Be with their families. We pray the safety and your protection and your guidance because they're in areas that basically command above is not really prevalent for them to search out exactly what they need to do. So be in the hearts and minds of those individuals in your service.

And we ask that you provide not only the protection to them, but the wisdom to make the right decisions in the split seconds that they have. Father, we ask that you bless the rest of the week, bless our country, bless our president, our true president, and sort all of this out as quickly as possible. And please give us the peace that you're in total control and all things will happen in your timing.

That's all these things in my name. All right, guys, I'm going to hit the stop button.